

# The Electronic Systems Center's *Hansconian*

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Lt. Gen. Ronald T. Kadish (left), Electronic Systems Center commander, escorts (from right) Rep. Joseph Moakley, Bernard Cardinal Law, Archbishop of Boston, and Sen. Edward M. Kennedy through the C-130 Hercules transport aircraft that took 15 tons of food and critical medical supplies to Honduras Monday. (photo by Linda LaBonte Britt)

## Helping friends in need

# ***Hanscom sends relief supplies to Honduras***

by **Kevin Gilmartin**  
ESC Public Affairs

More than 15 tons of food and critical medical supplies was airlifted from Hanscom to hurricane-ravaged Honduras Monday as a large contingent of news media, several Massachusetts leaders and the Archbishop of Boston looked on.

Bernard Cardinal Law, Archbishop of Boston, had visited Honduras soon after Hurricane Mitch hit Central America, devastating much of the area, leaving hundreds of thousands without food or homes. The cardinal spoke regularly with Sen. Edward M. Kennedy from Honduras about the devastation, and the two formed an alliance to organize humanitarian aid drives and airlift to bring supplies to Central America.

Chap. (Capt.) Bill Burrell of the Hanscom Chapel sponsored a "Honduras

Donation" drive, and thanks to the generosity of the base community, collected more than five tons of non-perishable food and supplies in only seven hours. At the same time, the Red Cross and the Catholic Charity of Boston collected food and supplies for Honduras relief, all of which was unloaded by 66th Logistics Squadron personnel and stored in Hanscom's Base Supply until Monday.

Members of the 85th Aerial Port Squadron, an Air Force Reserve unit stationed here, packed the donated items on pallets. Kennedy's office was able to secure airlift from the 166th Airlift Wing of the Delaware Air National Guard for 8:30 a.m. Monday.

A press conference featuring Kennedy, Law, and Reps. Joseph Moakley and Martin Meehan, along with Electronic Systems Center Commander Lt. Gen. Ronald T.

Kadish, was held prior to the pallets being loaded on board a C-130H by the 85th APS. Each of the principles spoke briefly to the press about the devastation in Honduras and the charity of Massachusetts and Air Force people in trying to bring relief to that country. Reports aired locally on WBZ-TV, Channel 4, and WCVB-TV, Channel 5, and photos of the event appeared in the Boston Globe, Boston Herald and Lowell Sun, as well as in several local newspapers.

"The degree of need can not be overstated," said Law, who was one of the first Americans to visit Central America after the storm. The cardinal noted that Honduras, a country of 7 million people, suffered 6,000 deaths as a result of Hurricane Mitch, and has 1.4 million people left homeless after the storm, while neighboring Nicaragua, with a population of 4 million, suffered more than 3,000 deaths.

"These are our neighbors," he said. "What we do here today, with the private sector, religious institutions, elected officials and our Armed Forces shows our country at its best. As soon as we landed, we saw that ... in the compassion of our military, who were there. We have a reason to be proud today."

"We are proud to express our appreciation to so many who have done so much in so little time" to help those in Central America, the senator said. "We are thankful for the extreme generosity, for the outpouring of help and assistance, so this plane can take off full today. And, we know that this plane will soon be followed by another plane and that will be followed by many more planes."

Another C-130 flight from Hanscom is scheduled for Wednesday, and officials are working to ensure all the donated goods get to those in need as soon as possible.

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## Straight Talk

Straight Talk provides two-way communication between the 66th Air Base Wing commander and people on base.

A 24 hour-a-day telephone line and E-mail account (STRAIGHT TALK) are set up as ways for Hanscom's population to submit questions, complaints or comments, anonymously, if desired. All concerns are personally reviewed by the wing commander.

However, the quickest and most efficient way to communicate comments or complaints is to go right to the source. To assist you, we've listed points of contact and telephone numbers for several key support organizations.

■ 66th Air Base Wing Vice Commander	Col. Matt Jackson.....3-2302
■ 66th Support Group Commander	Col. Peggy A. Shaw.....3-2302
■ ESC Senior Enlisted Advisor	Chief Master Sgt. Michael Kerver.....3-5115
■ Medical Commander	Col. Patrick F. Phelan.....3-4703
■ Civil Engineer Commander	Lt. Col. Patrick R. Daly.....3-3526
■ Services Commander	



**Col. Chris T. Anzalone**  
66th Air Base Wing commander

Also, don't forget your supervisor, commander or first sergeant, they're there to help you.

If you are not satisfied with the response you receive, or are unable to solve the problem, please call the Straight Talk hot line at 3-3732.

Maj. Chris P. Wright.....3-3901
■ Mission Support Squadron Commander
Maj. Darrell P. Keating.....3-8875
■ Security Police Commander
Maj. Roger A. McNeal.....3-4150
■ Communication, Information Division Director
Lt. Col. Diana M. Youngs.....3-7500
■ Civilian Personnel Division Director
L. Fay Striker.....3-2723
Logistics Squadron Commander
Lt. Col. Donald A. Flowers.....3-3461

## Snow Blowers in Housing

**Q** I am calling to find out if there are going to be any snow blowers in base housing like there has been in the past couple of years. Usually they start putting them out to the housing mayors by now.

I called up Road and Grounds and they said there is not enough money this year. Is this true?

**A** In the past the 66th Civil Engineer Squadron has provided snow blowers in each of the housing areas and the Mobile Home Park. This was actually a luxury service — as far as we know, most other northern bases encourage residents who own snow blowers to assist those who have a tough time shoveling.

Now the machines are old and most of them have broken down. We have tried to get replacement parts to fix them but the parts aren't made anymore, so we are left with

just a few that are running.

At this time we do not have the funding to purchase new ones. The few we have left are going to be put in Battle Road Glen and the Mobile Home Park, for these are the largest areas and most difficult to plow.

We will cannibalize parts from the broken machines to keep these few operational snow blowers running through this season.

## Plowing snow

**Q** I've noticed that the Civil Engineers snowplow the streets but the garages and parking areas are the last to be plowed, which sometimes makes it difficult to get out.

I anticipate that I will be TDY quite a bit this winter, and I'm concerned that my wife and small child may have to walk if they can't get the car out.

Is there anything we can do?

**A** It is times like this when we need to look out for each

other since the civil engineers can't be everywhere at once. I ask each one of you to help out your neighbor this winter.

I've heard stories already of folks here at Hanscom who shovel the sidewalk of an empty house, or work a 12-hour day and then come home and shovel out the driveway for an expectant mother whose husband is TDY.

I commend every one of these wonderful people who have gone out of their way to make winter safer for all of us by keeping the pathways clear.

If you know your neighbor is going TDY, don't wait for him or her to ask for help, just jump in and offer. It's a great way to make friends with your neighbors, and it may be you who needs the help next time!

If the civil engineers make a mistake, such as plowing the snow in front of your vehicle, please give Capt. Mark Bednar a call at 3-4465. He and his folks will help you out as soon as they can.

## Readiness Corner

# Protecting against terrorism

by Col. Chris T. Anzalone  
66th Air Base Wing

This Readiness Corner will give you information to help you prepare for the exercise that will take place the week of Jan. 4. This week we'll cover ThreatCons Alpha and Bravo in-depth, and next week we'll concentrate on ThreatCons Charlie and Delta. For each ThreatCon, we'll let you know how you will be affected at work, in the home, on or off the base. First, here's a brief explanation of each ThreatCon:

□ In ThreatCon Alpha, the possibility exists that terrorist activities could occur at Hanscom. Successful terrorist threats or activities would cause mission disruption, endanger personnel, and hinder the function of the installation. ThreatCon Alpha is a general warning and the nature and extent of the threat is "unpredictable." The installation must be capable of maintaining ThreatCon Alpha indefinitely with little or no impact on the mission.

□ ThreatCon Bravo occurs when an increased and more predictable threat of terrorist activity exists against DoD facilities or personnel within the Northeastern United States. The nature and extent of the threat is more "predictable," but there is no specific target. Measures taken for this threat condition must be capable of being maintained for weeks without affecting operational capability.

□ ThreatCon Charlie is implemented when an incident or intelligence is received indicating some form of terrorist action against DoD facilities or personnel within the Boston region is "imminent." Measures taken for this threat condition, when executed for more than short periods, will affect the peacetime activities of the installation.

□ ThreatCon Delta applies to the immediate area where a terrorist attack has occurred or when intelligence is received that terrorist action against a specific location is likely.

ThreatCon Alpha is what we've been experiencing for the last several months. Every one of us needs to be suspicious of strangers, unidentified containers, abandoned vehicles, and unusual activities. Buildings, rooms, and storage areas not in regular use should be secured and periodically inspected.

For base housing residents, it is important to remember to keep your doors locked at night or when you are not at home. Also, leave a light on for yourself, and remember to lock your vehicles and your garages. These may be common sense safety measures, but they are even more important during ThreatCon Alpha and higher.

Our security forces personnel spot-check vehicles parked in or near buildings. They will also randomly check IDs, so be aware of possible delays, and please be patient.

Report suspicious activity to security forces at 9-911 or 3-2315 from work, or 911 or 377-2315 from housing. If you see something out of the ordinary, don't hesitate to report it. Your instincts may be more accurate than you realize.

ThreatCon Bravo is a step above ThreatCon Alpha. In an effort to deter an act of terrorism, facility checks increase to once every eight hours, with high-risk facilities being checked at least every four hours. There will be a 25-meter clear zone around many facilities, which means that dumpsters and vehicles must be moved at least 25 meters away from the building. When you come to work in the morning, many of you will have to park a little further away from your building. We realize this is an inconvenience, but it is a necessary one.

During ThreatCon Bravo, ID checks at the gates will also increase in frequency, possibly even increasing to 100 percent. Trucks and vans entering or exiting the installation may be physically checked. Again, these measures will result in delays when entering or leaving the base.

Keep in mind that the only authorized way to get on or off base is through an approved entry control point; i.e., a gate. Walking through the woods from Minute-man National Park or around Gate 2 is not authorized. Housing residents should challenge unknown individuals walking on base through the woods.

As you can see, ThreatCons Alpha and Bravo are the least intrusive. ThreatCons Charlie and Delta are another story though, so make sure you read next week's edition of Readiness Corner. In the meantime, continue to be alert to suspicious activity, as we are still in ThreatCon Alpha.

## The Electronic Systems Center's Hansconian

The Hansconian is published by Community Newspapers, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass.

This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Hansconian are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or Community Newspapers of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs office for Electronic Systems Center at Hanscom under Air Force Materiel Command. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

### Submitting articles

Articles must be submitted by e-mail ([hansconian@hanscom.af.mil](mailto:hansconian@hanscom.af.mil)) or brought in on a 3.5-inch floppy disk or a zip disk to Bldg. 1606, Room 110. Submissions must be received at least one week prior to each Friday's publication.

### Paid ads

To purchase a display ad call Kurt Anderson at 978-371-5723.

### Classified ads

Hansconian free classified ads are available to anyone affiliated with the base. Ads run for two weeks.

Business and rental ads are available for a fee. Call (781) 433-7940.

To place an ad, first complete a classified ad form. Forms are available in the ESC Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1606, Room 109.

Next, mail the form through BITC to ESC/PA, fax a copy to Theresa Feely at 3-5077 or hand-carry it to the above location. Deadline is noon Friday.

For more information, call the Hansconian office at 3-3912.

### Delivery problems

Call 1-800-722-1914 for problems or questions concerning newspaper delivery to base housing.

Call the Hansconian office if you have questions concerning newspaper delivery to base buildings.

### Hansconian On-line

Visit the Hansconian on the world wide web at [www.hanscom.af.mil/Hansconian](http://www.hanscom.af.mil/Hansconian)

Lt. Gen. Ronald T. Kadish  
Commander, ESC

Lt. Col. Guy Thompson  
Chief, Public Affairs

### Electronic Systems Center Public Affairs Editorial Staff

Master Sgt. Daryl Mayer  
Chief of Internal Information, 3-8246

Airman 1st Class Jason A. Violette  
Editor, 3-2203

Community Newspaper Company  
150 Baker Avenue Ext., Suite 305  
Concord, Mass. 01742  
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# Base supply to undergo cost comparison study

## A-76 study scheduled to be final by May 2000

A cost comparison of Base Supply affecting 29 Air Force enlisted and 39 civilians was announced Nov. 10 by Col. James Jackson, 66th Air Base Wing Vice commander.

The cost comparison, commonly known as an A-76 study, is projected to be completed in May of 2000 and will be conducted under the auspices of Air Force Pamphlet 26-12 which implements the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76; Performance of Commercial Activities.

Because the civilian study population is less than 51,

no congressional announcement or notification is required.

Transition to either a government civilian-run or contract organization will occur by November of 2000.

This action reaffirms the Government's policy to rely on the private sector for products and services. When in-house performance of commercial activities is not required for national defense reasons, and contracting is cost-effective, conversion to contract performance is in the best interest of the American taxpayer.

When a competition between in-house and contract performance determines contracting is more cost-effective, OMBC A-76 and Federal Acquisition Regulations require the contractor to offer adversely-affected civilian employees the right of first refusal for job openings under the contract, for which they are qualified.

Military personnel involved in the cost-comparison will ultimately be transferred.

Since the Department of Defense is sensitive to the personal impact this action may have on civilian employees, the DoD Program for Stability of Civilian Employment ensures every effort is made to help those adversely-affected civilians who desire placement assistance.

These employees are registered in the Defense-wide, computerized, Priority Placement Program and receive placement rights to vacancies within the Defense Department. Other Federal agencies are also solicited for openings for adversely-affected employees.

When civilian employees must relocate to continue their Federal employment, transportation and moving expenses are paid for by the Government.

# New terminal shows boost in Link-16 data rates

by **Al DiRe**

ESC Global Awareness Product Area Directorate

A successful demonstration at Eglin AFB, Fla., has shown that data rates over Link-16 channels can be increased by as much as 10 times.

Led by Maj. James Eldridge of the Electronic Systems Center's Air Force Link-16 System Integration Office, members of the joint test team at Eglin were enthusiastic about the gains resulting from tests conducted in early July on a new terminal from ViaSat Inc. The tests were part of the Link-16 Enhanced Throughput program, which has a goal of increasing Link-16 data rates up to a factor of 10.

Link-16 is a secure, jam-resistant high-capacity voice or data-link system for transmitting information between air or ground platforms. It provides the warfighter battlefield situational awareness.

ViaSat was the first of two vendors to demonstrate the enhanced capability. The second vendor, GEC-Marconi, under contract by the Army, is scheduled to be ready for testing early next year.

The hardware and software from ViaSat's prototype terminal under test was initially put through simulated test conditions by ViaSat and subsequently handed over to the Air Force for independent testing. This development effort is part of a tri-service initiative to exploit new tactical datalink technologies.

"The Link-16 Enhanced Throughput test was impressive and very successful in that all measured data matched or exceeded the previously simulated data," Eldridge said.

Rate increases come at the expense of anti-jam performance, but the terminal software lets users manage the tradeoff.

"One useful feature of our terminal is that throughput can be boosted incrementally, by factors of three, five, seven and a-

half, or 10," said Paul Baca, director of Communication, Navigation and Information Systems at ViaSat. "With selectable increases, users have the ability to determine how much anti-jam capability they need and choose the corresponding rate increase they can afford."

The tests also showed that the performance tradeoff is better than one-for-one. For every dB increase in data rate, the decrease in jammer margin was less than 1 dB.

The hardware and software for the terminal used in the demonstration was developed by ViaSat under a Small Business Innovative Research contract with the Air Force Electronic Systems Center's Air Force Link-16 System Integration Office. The resulting technology may be used to retrofit Joint Tactical Information Distribution System terminals in the field and provide enhanced performance in new Multifunction Information Distribution System terminals under development.

The enhancement program is a result of

the success of the Link-16 protocol. Once users began deploying Link-16 devices, they quickly thought of new ways to use them. However, new applications such as video transmission, Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol data communications, and advanced weapon systems, all require much faster speeds than are available today. In addition, Link-16 transmissions are limited by the Federal Aviation Administration because of possible interference with air traffic control frequencies. Higher data rates can accommodate the bandwidth needs of these new applications, and translate to shorter transmission times to decrease any FAA conflicts.

"This event represents an initial milestone in enhancing the use of tactical datalinks for the warfighter," Eldridge said. "The enhanced capability will provide such benefits as allowing the warfighter to train as they fight and receiving pre- and post-attack imagery in the cockpit."

## Family Services to sponsor annual Holiday Cookie Drop

Family Services is still looking for volunteers to help in this year's Holiday Cookie Drop.

The drop helps spread holiday cheer with the men and women of Hanscom who have to work by delivering cookies to 24 hour workcenters on Christmas Eve.

People who can donate cookies must drop them off at the Family Support Center by 9 a.m. Dec. 24.

Anyone interested in helping carol and deliver the cookies should meet at the center at 6 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

Call 3-4222 to sign up.



# Nominees sought for 1998 Shiely, Wright, O'Neill awards

by **Capt. Bradley McDonald**  
ESC/GAX

Lt. Gen. Ronald T. Kadish, Electronic Systems Center commander, is soliciting nominees for the 1998 Shiely, Wright and O'Neill awards.

Nominees will be judged based on criteria outlined in ESC Instruction 36-2805 dated Oct. 20 and Col. Lee Hughes', ESC staff director, Call for Nominations letter dated Nov. 24. The banquet recognizing 1998 outstanding contributions will be held March 3 at the Officers' Club. The purpose and eligibility requirements are:

### The Albert R. Shiely Jr. Award

The Albert R. Shiely Jr. Award designates the two most outstanding system program offices within ESC. It (1) recognizes the vital role the offices have in our nation's defense, and (2) provides an incentive to excel in the program management field. The award is presented to both the Program Executive Officer Program and the Designated Acquisition Commander Program. Any ESC office that has been designated as a system program office and has been active during the entire preceding fiscal year is eligible to receive the award.

### The Harold M. Wright Award

The Harold M. Wright Award is given yearly to

two civilian employees in ESC. The award publicly recognizes civilians who have made outstanding contributions to ESC's command and control or C2 mission. The Wright award is presented to individuals in two separate categories: civilians in Category 1 (grades GS-7 thru GS-12/GM-12), and Category 2 (grades GS-13/GM-13 and above). Individuals are eligible to receive the award provided they were assigned to ESC for the entire fiscal year applicable to the award presentation.

### The John W. O'Neill Award

The John W. O'Neill Award is given once each year to two military officers within ESC. The award publicly recognizes officers who have made outstanding contributions to ESC's C2 mission. Similar to the Wright award, the O'Neill award is presented to two separate categories: officers in the grade of 0-1 thru 0-4 (Category 1), and 0-5 and above (Category 2). Individuals are eligible to receive the award provided they were assigned to ESC for the entire fiscal year applicable to the award presentation.

It should be noted that previous recipients of Shiely, Wright, and O'Neill awards are eligible to receive the award again. Nomination packages are due to the Commander's Action Office no later than Jan. 4. The packages will be subsequently reviewed by several two-letter directors with finalists being notified via let-

## IG team visits AFRL today

The Air Force Materiel Command Inspector General team is scheduled to arrive at Hanscom today.

The visit is part of an Air Force Research Laboratory-wide combined Unit Compliance and Operation Readiness Inspections.

The IG team will inspect the Hanscom Research Site from today through Wednesday.



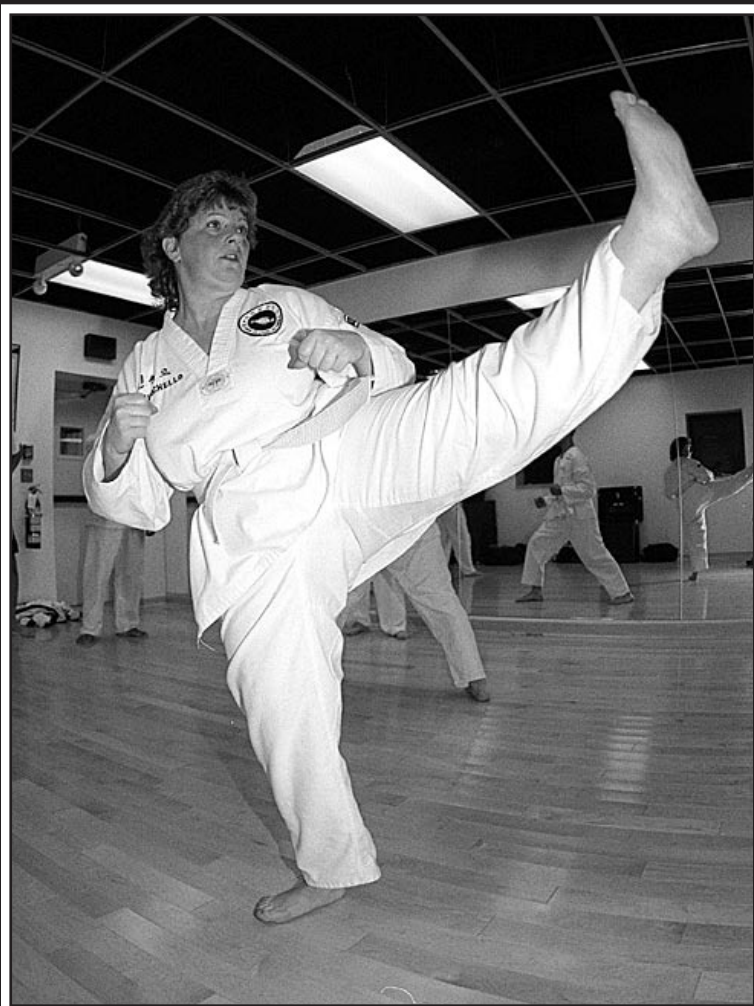


photo by Rob Trubia

## Keeee Ya!

Italia Minchello practices a kick during a Tae Kwon Do class at the Base Fitness Center. The center offers free classes every Monday and Wednesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children under age 10 need to be accompanied to the classes by an adult. Call the center at 3-3639 to sign up.

# Making computers accommodate

by Airman 1st Class Jason A. Violette  
ESC Public Affairs

Representatives from the CAP (previously known as Computer Accommodations Program) office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base will visit Hanscom Dec. 11 in Bldg. 1606 from 8 to 11 a.m.

A display table will allow the public to look at products available through the program, pick up brochures and talk to representatives.

CAP is an Air Force Materiel Command-funded program and is under the direction of the Electronic System Center. The program provides accommodations, services and ergonomic assistance for Department of Defense employees with disabilities or injuries, enabling them to be more productive and confident in their work environment.

CAP has a "try before you buy" policy that allows an individual to make an educated decision and be directly involved in the accommodation process.

According to the CAP website, the program uses the following tools in order to provide comprehensive solutions for its clients.

❑ **Individual needs analysis.** One-on-one assessment to identify the specific needs and requirements of individuals once they have made application for service.

❑ **Research of assistive technology.** Various types of equipment are reviewed through information obtained from vendors and resources.

❑ **Recommendation of appropriate solutions.** Sug-

gestions for a comprehensive solution package are proposed to the client. Equipment choices should be discussed with management, a physician, or other professionals if necessary.

❑ **Assistance in procurement of adaptive equipment.** CAP will assist the client with obtaining the appropriate equipment through the Department of Defense Computer and Electronic Accommodations Program or other funding sources.

❑ **Coordination of training.** If requested, CAP will provide or assist in scheduling training in connection with the assistive technology ordered.

❑ **Follow up.** CAP will maintain contact with the clients to keep them abreast of emerging technology. If problems arise, representatives will assess the situation and if necessary, refer to appropriate resources.

Since it's inception in April 1991, CAP's mission has grown to include ergonomic injuries, as well as disability accommodations and accessibility. It's long-term goals include developing working relationships with all AFMC locations and to establish a satellite location.

The program's manager, Scott Clausen, works with a five-person contracted staff. Together they have 257 active clients and have provided service to over 770 customers.

For information, call the CAP office at DSN 787-1505, or visit the program's website at [www.afmc.wpafb.af.mil/ESC/MM/CAP](http://www.afmc.wpafb.af.mil/ESC/MM/CAP).

**For all your concert  
and entertainment  
events, call  
Tickets and Tours  
at 3-3262.**

## Augmentee Conference held here

by Maj. Nicholas M. Zallas  
66th Support Group

Lt. Gen. Ronald T. Kadish, Electronic Systems Center Commander, welcomed over 100 conferees and guests to the 1998 ESC Individual Mobilization Augmentee Conference held at Hanscom from Nov. 20 to 22.

IMA's from all over the country converged to receive briefings from Maj. Gen. Robert Nester, Air Force Reserve, and Maj. Gen. Roger Platt, commander of the Massachusetts Air National Guard on the changing role of the USAF Reserve and Air National Guard in the new Expeditionary Aerospace Force.

Col. Riley Repko, Air Force Command and Control Directorate spoke about Air Force Reserve participation in Air Force exercises and Maj. Tom Fritz Air Force Strategic Planning Directorate spoke about the future force.

Additional topics included briefs on the operation, accomplishments and future taskings for the Command Unified Battlespace Environment and Expeditionary Force Experiment function of ESC.

**Buckle up -- the life  
you save may be  
your own!**

## Electronic ticketing improves official travel

by **Ellie Gilbert**  
66th Logistics Squadron

Imagine a world where you could travel anywhere you needed to use only a phone and a fax machine.

Imagine a world where you no longer had to go pick up your airline tickets but instead went straight to the airport with no waiting. Well, stop imagining because that world exists today!

Electronic ticketing has arrived at Hanscom and it is here to stay. Instead of going to the passenger service section to pick up your tickets or having to wait to have them delivered, you can simply make one phone call and fax in your orders. Then all you need to do is go to the airport and check in

at the counter (gate if you don't have any checked baggage) where you will receive your boarding pass.

The benefits to you from this new system are many, including; less time spent getting paper tickets, no worries about losing tickets and itinerary changes will be a breeze. The benefits to the Travel Company are just as significant; time spent delivering tickets can be used to increase customer service, less usage of paper (a federal mandate), and instant reservations and confirmations. Hanscom has experimented with E-tickets for several months, and the positive feedback from customers is the primary reason for our decision to fully institute the program.

When you consider the savings

in time, effort and resources, E-ticket procedures are a win/win proposition for the customer and the provider, which is why E-ticket procedures will be instituted Dec. 15. After this date, paper tickets will only be issued when absolutely necessary (The Travel Company reservationist will advise you if the trip is not E-ticket capable).

The following airlines are all E-ticket capable: American, Air Canada, Ansett, Alaskan, British Airways, Continental, Canadian, Delta, America West, Lufthansa, Northwest, Air New Zealand, Qantas, Reno Air, TWA, United, and US Airways. If you have any questions about this new procedure, contact the Chief of Passenger Service Ellie Gilbert at 3-2640.

## Holiday Decorating

Margo Lord, from the Electronic Systems Center Test and Evaluation Directorate, helps decorate the Officers' Club in preparation for the holiday season.

Several other organizations volunteered to help with the decorating, including the Officers' Wives' Club, J-STARS and Company Grade Officers' Council. (photo by Rob Trubia)



## DoD announces uniform tuition assistance policy

by **Jim Garamone**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The cost of continuing your education just got cheaper.

A uniform tuition assistance policy affecting all the services went into effect Oct. 1, Pentagon officials said.

All services now pay 75 percent of undergraduate and graduate level tuition and related costs up to ceilings of \$187.50 per semester hour and \$3,500 per year, said Otto Thomas, DoD director of continuing education.

Roughly 400,000 service members receive tuition assistance each year. Less than 10 percent received it to the degree that they would have hit the ceiling, Thomas said.

The annual ceiling would help cover about 18 semester hours of studies at expensive schools and considerably more at cheaper ones. Service members would have to spend nearly \$1,200 out of pocket to hit the ceiling, and those who do can apply for waivers, although DoD officials are not encouraging that.

Thomas said the ceiling is a compromise — some officials wanted more money. But tuition

assistance is meant to support part-time student programs. Service members are full-time members of the military, and being full-time students, in addition, is difficult. Even with the compromise, service members attending a modestly priced school would have to be full-time students to hit the ceiling — and they probably don't have that kind of free time, he said.

In the past, the services had individual tuition policies. Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines could be in the same college class and yet be reimbursed differently. The services also had established different amounts they would pay for different college levels. "One service, for example, might pay a certain amount for undergraduate work and a different amount for graduate work," Thomas said.

Another service even broke that down, paying less for freshman and sophomore level courses than for junior and senior courses.

The October 1995 Quality of Life Task Force Report, also known as the Marsh Report, after the group chairman, former Army Secretary John O. Marsh, recommended the uniform approach.



## 2,000 members encouraged to participate in health, risk survey

**BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, D.C. (AFPN)** —

Approximately 2,000 randomly selected active-duty Air Force members may be asked to answer personal questions for an authorized health and risk factor survey.

The Air Force Surgeon General has contracted with Information Transfer Systems, Inc. of Ann Arbor, Mich., to conduct the United States Air Force Health and Risk Factor Survey by telephone of members worldwide. The survey has been approved through the Air Force Survey Branch and is assigned the survey control number USAF SCN 98-68.

The survey has questions about health problems, the need for new health-related services and programs, the recent use of military and non-military medical services, perceptions of the quality of care, and personal behaviors that can increase the risk of illnesses, injuries, disease and disability. This survey is essential to help the Air Force monitor the health and health-

related needs of AF active-duty members of all ranks, according to officials at the Air Force Surgeon General's office.

Although some of the questions are personal in nature, participants are guaranteed that their answers will be kept strictly confidential. No information which identifies participants will be released to the Air Force or published in any form by ITS.

Potential respondents will be contacted by telephone at work or at home if they cannot be reached at work. Individuals may reschedule the interview for another time or place, if desired. Participation is entirely voluntary, but randomly selected personnel are encouraged to participate since no one can take their place, and the results will not be accurate without high participation rates. The interview takes approximately 25 minutes to complete.

Questions concerning the survey can be directed to the Air Force Survey Branch at DSN 487-5680 or e-mail to [survey-br@afpc.randolph.af.mil](mailto:survey-br@afpc.randolph.af.mil).

**Please reuse the news...recycle this paper**

# Breeding happiness

## Air Force uses animal therapy in hospitals

**by Douglas J. Gillert**  
American Forces Press Service

SAN ANTONIO (AFPN) — The staff at Wilford Hall Medical Center knew the cute but withdrawn four-year-old girl had been sexually abused, but law enforcement authorities needed her to tell someone.

"I think she was too embarrassed to talk about it, so she kept quiet," said Maj. Margaret Kohut. "Then, I brought Max in. He crawled up on her lap, and she told him."

Remarkable things happen sometimes when Max, a silky-coated brown dachshund, and other dogs and cats come prowling the halls and wards of this massive Air Force hospital at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Like the time a comatose man responded to the cold nose and warm fur of a visiting pet.

But mostly the animals bring smiles to the faces of bedridden patients, especially little boys and girls who have been isolated here by their rebellious or broken bodies.

Like three-year-old Alizabeth Watson, in for one of several operations she needs for a kidney problem. A visit Nov. 19 by Max, Roscoe and a playful pug named Sammy, made her forget for a while the tubes taped to her arm.

"Animals don't care what you look like, what your state of mind

is or if you're disfigured," said Kohut, a clinical social worker who steers the pet therapy program here on a volunteer basis. "They give love unconditionally."

Twice a week, on Wednesdays and Thursdays, Kohut and others take their pets to Wilford Hall, and for a few hours lighten the loads of patients and staff alike.

"We'll be here Thanksgiving Day to visit all the patients, from children to geriatrics," Kohut said. "At Christmas, we'll not only visit the hospital but also the basic trainees not able to go home for the holidays, the people staying at the Fisher House [a temporary home for families of patients], even the correctional custody inmates."

And on normal visiting days when she's completed her ward rounds, Kohut takes Max to the pharmacy, where people stoop to pet and talk with the good-natured dachshund, forgetting for a while how long they may have been waiting in line.

"Bringing the pets here reduces patients' stress, lowers their blood pressure," Kohut said. "For awhile, they can forget about their problems and pressures."

The Animal Assisted Therapy Program has been on the books here since 1994, but nobody brought pets in until Kohut revitalized the program this summer. Since July, six dogs, one cat and a rabbit have been coming weekly to cheer patients. Next

month, Kohut's husband will bring his cockatoo in. Nobody yet has volunteered a pet snake.

Before getting their "dog tags," the pets must be certified by a veterinarian as free of diseases and parasites. The animals must be well-groomed, good-natured and undisturbed by elevators, crowded halls and the typical clutter of a hospital bed. Max, Sammy and Roscoe fit the bill perfectly, seeking and submitting patiently to rubs, scratches, pats and strokes from hands big and small.

A couple times a month, volunteers meet for pet therapy training and obedience classes. They learn that the animals must remain close to people most of the time to stay well socialized. And they learn not to force their visits upon anyone, although few can resist the wagging tails and alert, upturned faces of the friendly pets.

Kohut said she's aware of a similar program at the hospital at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, where someone's actually assigned full-time to head pet therapy. And Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii reported a similar program last year. She doesn't know if other military hospitals use pets but said the practice is widespread in the civilian community.

She thinks all hospitals should try the program.

"Therapy animals provide an emotional connection without judgment, criticism, fear or distaste for the medical condition of the patient," she said. The patients' smiles attest to the program's worth.

## Office provides computer training

The Communications and Information Division Training Office provides many computer based training courses to all government personnel assigned to Hanscom.

This program will allow you to download a training course to your computer and take the course at your convenience. The office has more than 100 courses available covering areas such as Windows NT, Microsoft Office, UNIX, and Networking fundamentals. To establish an account contact the SC Training office at 3-1253.

**To report a fire, stop a crime or save a life, dial 9-911 (377 numbers) or dial 911 (274/275/271)**



# Health plan: *Time running out for federal civilian employees to start, change their plans*

by Douglas J. Gillert  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Federal civilian employees have until Dec. 14 to enroll in a health plan for 1999. That's when the annual open season ends.

If you already are enrolled in one of the hundreds of plans available under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, your provider should have sent you a brochure and renewal form. If you're not currently in a plan, your personnel office should have provided you a guide to the 1999 program and enrollment forms.

The guide, forms and other information, including answers to frequently asked questions, are also available on the Office of Personnel Management web site at <http://www.opm.gov/insure/html/about.html>.

Federal employees, retirees and their survivors can choose from a nationwide selection of plans. Options include health maintenance organizations, point-of-service plans and managed fee-for-service plans.

Health maintenance organizations typically provide broad coverage for a premium and small, fixed co-payments. In return, you select a participating doctor to be your primary care provider and to refer you to participating specialists. Other than for emergency care, HMOs usually won't pay for health care you receive from nonmember doctors.

Point-of-service plans are cheapest when you use doctors in the plan's network. On those occasions you're willing to pay more, however, you can use any doctor you like and see specialists without referrals.

Fee-for-service plans provide you the widest choice of doctors — you choose the ones you want and see specialists without referrals. They charge a premium and, after an annual deductible, cover a percentage of your

costs — usually 75 percent to 80 percent. Many also offer a preferred provider organization that can cut your out-of-pocket expenses.

Some plans require that you join the sponsoring organization. Others limit enrollment to certain employee groups.

Some things to consider when exploring the available plans include:

❑ **Cost.** How much is the premium and how often is it due? How much are "extras" — emergency room visits, well-child care and deductibles, for example? Does the plan feature a mail-order pharmacy option, which usually cuts prescription costs significantly? Does the fee-for-service plan you want include a network of preferred providers?

❑ **Coverage.** Make sure the plan meets your and your family's needs.

For example, if you are over 65 does the plan coordinate with Medicare?

If you're planning to have children, does it have a prenatal program? What and how much catastrophic coverage does the plan provide? Does the plan cover dentistry and, if so, to what extent?

❑ **Quality.** The Office of Personnel Management recommends you learn as much as possible about a health plan before enrolling. Talk to plan administrators and providers. If you're considering a health maintenance organization, is it nationally accredited? Find out from co-workers what they like and dislike about their plans. Use the comparison chart at your personnel office and on the Internet at [www.opm.gov/insure/99/states/index.htm](http://www.opm.gov/insure/99/states/index.htm) for information about each plan and its performance and management.

All plans under the federal program contain improvements for 1999. These include direct access to women's health care providers for non-emergency services and frequent specialist care for persons with complex or serious medical conditions.



## VTC helps bring families together

by Airman 1st Class Jason A. Violette  
ESC Public Affairs

As we approach the Christmas season, many people are making plans to visit their loved ones. However, transportation costs and work obligations may prevent some Department of Defense people from seeing their families. Or will they?

Technology at the Video Teleconferencing Center here will enable people to share the holiday spirit with their loved ones via the "Holiday Video Visits" program which starts Dec. 14.

The program will be open Dec. 14 to 23, and again Dec. 29 to 31 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. People can talk to their families for up to 30 minutes free, but cannot conflict with official business.

For information or to schedule a "visit," call Bill Autote, VTC manager, at 3-8658.

## Testing cycles change; release dates unaffected

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) -- The Air Force is reducing the number of days in the Weighted Airman Promotion System testing cycles because of a decrease in the number of people testing for promotion.

Beginning with calendar 1999 testing windows, the number of testing dates available for people competing for staff, technical and master sergeant will be reduced from 75 to 60 days.

Promotion selections and release dates will not be affected.

The testing dates for calendar '99 are:

-- **99E7** (master sergeant), Jan. 15 - March 15

-- **99E6** (technical sergeant), Jan. 15 -

March 15

-- **99E5** (staff sergeant), April 1 - May 31

Individuals will be scheduled for the first 30 days of the test

window to the maximum extent possible and every eligible member must be prepared to test on the first day of each cycle. In addition, rescheduling must be kept to a minimum to preclude disruption of the testing cycle.

Test date changes will only be made for documented family or medical emergencies and sick call. Exercises and inspections are not justification for rescheduling test dates. Test date changes must be made through the unit commander to the missions support squadron commander for final approval.

If you have any questions, contact the Promotions office at 3-3303. (Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News Service)



## Band of Liberty sets Holiday concert schedule

The Air Force Band of Liberty will make the following appearances:

❑ Today at 7 p.m. in the National Music Center, Lenox, Mass.

❑ Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Woburn High School, Woburn, Mass.

❑ Sunday at 2 p.m. in the High School Auditorium, Portland, Maine.

❑ Wednesday at noon in Mechanics Hall, Worcester, Mass.

❑ Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Lowell Memorial Auditorium, Lowell, Mass.



# Individuals recognized for fitness excellence

by Shane Paulson  
HAWC

The following individuals have completed their cycle ergonomic training for 1998 and have surpassed 10 percent of the total Air Force:

Col. Jeffery Katz	ESC/ZJ
Lt. Col. Micheal Pergiovanni	AFRITS
Maj. Steven Nottoli	ESC/ZJ
Maj. Burton Wadas	ESC/CU
Capt. George Dyer	AFRITS
1st Lt. Charles Baker	ESC/ND
1st Lt. Theodore Conklin	ESC/ND
1st Lt. Holly Stifflemire	ESC/CU
1st Lt. Robin Orth	ESC/ND
2nd Lt. Nicholas Harris	ESC/ZJ
2nd Lt. Kyle Oyama	ESC/AC
Airman Jeremy Turner	ESC/CES
Airman Carlton Barnes	ESC/CE

The following individuals scored higher than 25percent range of the Air Force.

Maj. Henry Pandes	ESC/ND
Capt. Christopher Barker	ESC/GA
Capt. David Vanameyden	ESC/AWW
Capt. Dwayne Sellers	ESC/ND
1st Lt. Berton Sanders	ESC/GA
1st Lt. Loreen Lisle	ESC/GA
2nd Lt. Cory Brown	ESC/CO
2nd Lt. Gretchen Rhoads	ESC/PK
2nd Lt. Christopher Kay	ESC/PK
Tech. Sgt. Daniel Smith	ESC/IY
Airman Corey Lyman	66 ABW/CES



# Proper preparation is the key to... Safe winter exercising

by Shane Paulson  
Exercise Physiologist  
Health and Wellness Center

Are you ready for winter? It's that time of year again, when the coats, gloves and skis come out of storage. Now is a good time to start your preparation for those wonderful winter activities. Strength training and stretching now can reduce the risk of injury later.

Even if you don't plan to hit the slopes, strength and flexibility will serve you well on those slippery sidewalks. Many winter injuries are caused by falls. The painful image of doing "the split" comes to mind. To prevent such injuries, it is crucial to have a stable and strong base of support. The muscles that pull your legs together, the adductors, need to be strong as well as flexible. As always, the muscles of the low back are vulnerable to injury and snow shoveling, a slip, or overuse in a sport can cause a good amount of pain in an unconditioned back.

Flexibility can be improved almost immediately. You can develop a stretching program by

evaluating your flexibility goals or the parts of your body you want to be more flexible. Think of the activities you are training for and stretch the muscles that are involved in that activity. For example, if I want to touch my toes but am unable to, I can simply sit on the floor and gently stretch for my toes. Or I can stand and let gravity pull my upper body towards my toes.

Remember to be careful not to hurt yourself in your attempt to get better. Start gently; slowly progress to the point where you feel a good stretch and hold for three to ten seconds. As you become more flexible, hold the stretch for up to thirty seconds. Stretching should never be painful. If you feel pain, back off slightly and hold. You may find that stretching becomes somewhat fun as you make progress and continue to become more flexible.

Strength training is another way to ward off injuries. If you have a strength training program in practice, your chances of suffering injuries are reduced. Don't be discouraged if you are not currently strength training as strength gains

can be realized even after one workout. Again, it is important to use safe and effective techniques to attain your goals so start now and you'll be ready.

If you have questions about strength training or flexibility programs, please call the Health and Wellness Center at 3-6560. Classes are offered on a regular basis and appointments are available for individual consultations.



# Center offers fitness enhancement programs

The Health and Wellness Center has a variety of programs scheduled for December to help individuals improve their overall health.

These programs are available to all military members, dependants and DoD civilians.

To register for any of the

classes, call the HAWC at 3-6560.

□ **Healthy living class: "fitness for life"** will be held at the HAWC Tuesday from 5 to 6 p.m. Defines physical fitness; covers how to evaluate the intensity of your exercise for maximum benefit, and methods to reduce risk of

exercise-related injuries.

□ **A stress management class** will be held at the HAWC Wednesday and Thursday from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Each class consists of two sessions and is designed to focus on understanding the topic of stress, the effects of stress on your blood pressure, how to mentally manage stress, and become familiar with stress-relieving exercises.

□ **Sleep hygiene:** "How to get some zzzzs" will be held at the HAWC Wednesday from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

□ **Weight loss through exercise** will be held at the HAWC Thursday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The key to attaining and maintaining optimal weight is through healthy eating and regular exercise.

Visit the Hansconian online:  
<http://www.hanscom.af.mil/hansconian>



# Operational Contracting schedules IMPAC training

by **Lisa Hines**  
IMPAC Coordinator

Operational Contracting will hold International Merchant Purchase Authorization Card training classes for the credit card program Wednesday, in Bldg. 1520, 1st floor conference room from 8 to 11 a.m. Organizations involved in the program have the opportunity to send additional cardholders for training along with new or alternate billing officials. Both are required to have a letter of appointment from their two-letter director.

New organizations joining the program are also required to have a letter from their two-letter appointing cardholders and billing officials as well as a certified AF Form 4009 specifically for IMPAC purchases. The AF Form 4009 and letter of appointment must be complete and presented at time of training. Both billing officials and cardholders must be trained before an organization can be set up in the program.

Organizations wishing to be involved in the credit card program, can call Janice Sullivan at 3-4620 or Staff Sgt. Anuke Shifman at 3-2376 to sign up for training. Training space may be limited.

# Decorations, holiday food can prove harmful to pets

by **Army Capt. Mark L. Richey**  
Veterinary Treatment Facility  
Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

Christmas is just around the corner, and as you are busy preparing for all of the celebration, don't forget that you can help your pets enjoy the holiday festivities safely.

In the midst of the food, presents and merriment, there are some simple precautions you can take to ensure the health of your dog or cat friend.

First, remember to avoid bones, which can cause injury to your pet's mouth, or damage and obstruction to the stomach and intestines.

Also, avoid feeding your pets fatty or rich foods, which are common during this holiday season. Animals' gastrointestinal systems are not used to changes in food types, and they can have severe stomach upset if they are fed some of these foods.

Animals also tend to nibble on plants, so it is also a good idea to watch what plants you place around the house. Poinsettias, for instance have a milky sap that can be irritat-

ing to the skin, eyes, mouth and gastrointestinal system of dogs and cats. Mistletoe also can cause severe illness, especially if the berries are eaten. Make sure to keep these seasonal plants out of your pet's reach.

Tinsel, ornaments, ribbons and strings may seem like great toys to a dog or cat, but could cause life-threatening obstruction of their intestinal tract if they are eaten.

Strings of lights can cause severe electrical burns to the mouth, if they are chewed on.

Candles are another hazard that can cause severe burns if pets are allowed access to them. However, physical hazards are not the only things to be aware of. The excitement, noise and crowds of people can also cause psychological hazards.

Know your pet and how it will react to these stresses. Also, try to provide your dog or cat with a quiet place to get away from all the activity.

By taking a few simple precautions and planning to avoid potential hazards, you can ensure your pets will enjoy the holiday season as much as you do.

# ADO sponsors Government, Industry Day

by **Ingrid Pascall-Lopez**  
Acquisition Development Office

The Electronic Systems Center's Acquisition Development Office, in conjunction with the Yankee Chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association will host a Government and Industry Day Dec. 16 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Enlisted Club.

Blaise Durante, secretary of the Air Force Acquisition Office, will be the guest speaker. Other participants will include ESC Commander Lt. Gen. Ronald T. Kadish, ESC program officials, other government organizations people and representatives from both industry and academia.

The goal of this session is two-fold. Participants will be brought up to date on the work being done by ESC in the area of refining the program planning process and its impact on acquisition cycle time. They will also discuss Acquisition Reform initiatives, such as potential changes to the source selection process.

The cost is \$20 per person for industry and \$15 per person for government personnel. Cost includes continental breakfast and lunch.

For information or to make a reservation, call 3-7417.

# Boy Scouts sell Christmas Trees

Hanscom Boy Scout Troop 173 will hold its annual Christmas Tree sale again this year.

The sale lot is located adjacent to the Base Exchange parking lot. The scouts will sell the trees until Dec. 23.

The hours of operation will be Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 7 p.m., and Monday through Friday 4 to 7 p.m. Prices range from approximately \$15 to \$30.

All proceeds go to Hanscom Boy scouting.

# Calendar of Events

## Monday

### AETC/IG personal conference

A personal conference period will be held by Lt. Col. Jack Snyder from the Office of the AETC Inspector General in the Brown Building (2nd Floor, adjacent to the support group commander's suite of offices) from 3 to 4 p.m. Special permission or appointment is not necessary.

This opportunity is open to all personnel, military and civilian, active duty and retired, along with anyone wanting to report fraud, waste and/or abuse of government resources. All disclosures during the period will be held in confidence except to the extent necessary for corrective action.

Personnel are requested, if possible, to complete an AF Form 1482, Inspector General Action Request, or AF Form 635, USAF Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Disclosure, as appropriate, in advance of the Personal Conference Period.

Personnel who are unable to attend should call the AETC/IG work center at 3-2728 to make an appointment with the AETC/IG representative.

### Equal Opportunity 2000 Class

The social actions equal opportunity 2000 class will come to an end as of Jan. 1. The office will conduct several classes during the month of November and December to ensure as many people are trained as possible. Those final numbers will be monitored closely by Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command.

Anyone who has not taken the class because of TDYs, or who are new to Hanscom, can call or e-mail Social Actions to schedule for one of the following classes. The office is located across from Family Support in Bldg. 1217. Dec. 10, the office will move to Bldg. 1515, the Patriot Dining Facility building.

Classes are: today 8 a.m. to noon; and Dec. 14, noon to 4 p.m.

Contact Master Sgt. Matthew Rzewnicki at 3-3796 or Staff Sgt. Bonnie Hernandez at 3-2532 for questions.

## Thursday

### JPPSO relocating

The Personal Property Shipping Office will be closed from today through Dec. 14. During this time it will relocate from Bldg. 1217 to Bldg. 1530. It will also be closed Dec. 16 for an official function. In case of emergency please call 3-7621.

### Housing office relocating

The Housing Office will be closed today and Dec. 11 to relocate to Bldg. 1530. The office will reopen Dec. 14 for normal operating hours. During the move, the Housing Office will not have telephone, email or fax capability. In case of an emergency, contact the civil engineering service call desk, 3-3384.

## Upcoming and Weeklies

### ESC quarterly awards

The next HQ ESC and Tenant Units Quarterly Awards ceremony is scheduled for Dec. 11 at 8 a.m. in the O'Club Ballroom. Attire for all nominees and attendees is uniform of the day. The price is \$5. Reservations are being accepted at the command chief master sergeant's office, Bldg. 1606 2nd Floor, room 208. Call 3-5115 or DSN 478-5115). RSVP by Dec. 8 at noon.

### Menorah lighting

The Menorah lighting ceremony will be held on the chapel lawn Dec. 14 at 4 p.m.

### Air Force Academy appointments

Troubled by the high cost of tuition? The Air Force may have the ticket for your college degree.

The Leaders Encouraging Airman Development phase one program offers appointments to the Air Force Academy for qualifying airmen until Jan. 31, 1999.

In recent years less than half of the authorizations have been awarded due to a lack of qualified applicants.

This year there are 85 allocations direct-

ly to the Academy. Applicants whose standardized test scores do not merit direct entry to the Academy can apply for one of the 50 allocations to the Air Force Academy Preparatory School.

Airmen wishing to apply must meet several standards. Applicants must be single and under 23 years old for direct entry to the Academy and 22 years old for entry to the Preparatory School.

In addition, airmen must meet the required score for the Scholastic Aptitude Test or American College Test, and the Candidate Fitness Test. The applicant's commander must also certify that the applicant is of high moral character.

To apply or get information about this program call the Education Office at 3-3120.

### Volunteers needed

Put your expertise to work, and make a difference in someone's life. You might even develop new skills. Either way, you'll certainly improve your community and make new friends. And if that's not enough, we help you help us offer free child care and flexible hours - all this by volunteering at Family Services. "Worker-bee" and leadership positions are available in the areas of office, lending locker, ATTIC, brochures, welcoming, STRIPES, layette and special projects. So, if you enjoy a challenge and want to be a part of a winning team, call 3-4222 and ask for Connie Thompson or Jacqui Thomas.

### USO of New England

The USO offers free discounted tickets to theaters, sporting events, concerts, museums, comedy clubs, galleries, special events and much more. People can visit the free USO VIP lounge at Logan International Airport terminal C seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Also people can use the free USO Cyber Café at United States Coast Guard ISC, 427 Commercial Street, Boston.

For information call (617)-720-4949 or e-mail.

## Patriot Dining Facility

The weekday hours of the facility are as follows:

Breakfast — 6 to 8 a.m.

Lunch — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dinner — 4 to 6 p.m.

Weekend and holiday hours:

Brunch — 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Supper — 4 to 6 p.m.

### Friday

Lunch: braised beef cubes, fish-wich

Dinner: chicken nuggets, chicken stir-fry\*

### Saturday

Brunch: hamburger yakisoba, barbecued cubed franks

Supper: baked chicken\*, mostaccioli with basil sauce\*

### Sunday

Brunch: scalloped ham and potatoes, Polish sausage

Supper: veal steaks, barbecued chicken

### Monday

Lunch: chicken tetrazzini, salmon

loaf

Dinner: grilled ham steak\* Chinese five-spice chicken\*

### Tuesday

Lunch: chili macaroni, turkey cutlet

Dinner: liver and onions, parmesan chicken\*

### Wednesday

Lunch: Mongolian barbecue

Dinner: meatloaf, vegetarian pizza\*

### Thursday

Lunch: Polish sausage, teriyaki chicken\*

Dinner: stuffed franks, turkey and broccoli casserole\*

Items listed with an "\*" are "Check it Out" Healthy items. For information on the Patriot Dining Facility or the menu, contact Master Sgt. Harold Warnett at 3-2189. NOTE: Menu items subject to change.

## Hanscom School Menu

### Monday

Nachos with seasoned beef and cheese sauce, niblet corn, fruit cup, sherbet

### Tuesday

French toast sticks, maple syrup, lite Jones sausage, juice, fruit

### Thursday

Deli hot dog on roll, potato chips, baked beans, veggie sticks, cookies

### Friday

Cheese pizza or fish pattie on roll, veggie sticks with dip, fruit cup, cake

## Colonial



## Theater

**Friday 7:30 p.m. HOLY MAN** - In a last chance attempt to revive sagging ratings, Ricky Hayman, a desperate TV station manager, hires G an inspirational guru to hawk wares on air. When he does, The Good Buy Shopping Network witnesses a miraculous turnaround. **PG** (some language) **114 min** Starring: **Eddie Murphy, Jeff Goldblum**

**Saturday 7:30 p.m. - ANTZ** - Z-4195 is just a worker ant, one in a billion, and his odds of landing the beautiful Princess Bala are about the same. Z soon finds himself leading a revolution. Once the most insignificant of workers, Z may just prove to be the biggest hero of them all. **PG** (mild language, menacing action) **83 min** Animated



photos courtesy of www.Movieweb.com



**Sunday 7:30 p.m. BRIDE OF CHUCKY** - The world's most notorious doll is reunited with Tiffany, the former love of his human life, when she rescues his remains and patches him together. However, Tiffany's plans for Chucky backfires when he demonstrates his love for her. **R** (strong horror violence, gore, language, some sexual and brief drug content) **89 min** Starring: **Jennifer Tilly, Brad Dourif**

Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Schedule is subject to change without notice. Call 3-7940 for movie information.



# Happenings

## Employment Assistance

❑ **Basic resume writing class** will be held at the Family Support Center Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This is a basic resume writing course. It covers how to write an eye-catching or scannable resume and how to fill out applications. Bring lunch.

❑ **Veteran Affairs disability claims review** will be held at the Family Support Center Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. A representative from AMVETS, a veterans' service organization, will assist in processing disability claims and answer questions. Call 3-4222 for an appointment.

❑ **Job search networking group** will be held at the Family Support Center on Mondays, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Join this group to sharpen job search skills and share techniques that work!

## Work and Life

❑ **Single parent workshop series** will be held at the Family Support Center Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Join Patricia Marquis, licensed independent clinical social worker, for this month's topic, "Positive discipline of your two to 12-year-old."

❑ **Inbound relocation seminar (families welcomed)** will be held at the Family Support Center today and Dec. 11 from 9 to 10 a.m. Welcome new Hanscom members and receive an official introduction to Hanscom's settling in services for new arrivals: homefinding, budgeting, local community information, spouse employment, volunteer opportunities and more.

## Fitness Enhancement

❑ **Video: "When Someone You Know Drinks Too Much"** will be shown Monday from noon to 12:30 p.m. Registration

not required.

❑ **Zyban-tobacco cessation class** will be held at the Hanscom clinic Thursday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Pre-register for screening and education for prescription of this new, non-nicotine, tobacco cessation medication. For reservations call 3-6560; for questions concerning the medication contact Colleen Miller at the nurses station at 3-5007.

## Hanscom Schools

❑ Special education tutors, aides, and substitutes needed. Hanscom schools invites qualified candidates to apply for full-time or part-time positions for special education tutors, aides and substitutes. Education certification preferred. Tutor salary \$18.16 per hour. For information call Trudy Sack at 781-274-6178 extension 272.

❑ The cafeteria also has openings for workers, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. or 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For information call Maria Barker at 781-274-9640.

## Education Center, Bldg. 1728, 3-2021

❑ **Intermediate Spanish** (continuation of elementary Spanish currently held at MITRE) will be offered Jan. 12 to March 4, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1130 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Education and Training Center, classroom F.

❑ **Elementary Spanish** (repeat of course currently held at MITRE) will be Jan 12 to March 4, Tuesdays and Thursday from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Education Center, classroom F.

❑ **Elementary Japanese** (oriented towards communication in business and government) will be offered Jan. 11 to March 3, Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:30 to 1 p.m. at the Education Center, classroom F.

Each course is two credit hours and costs \$500. Tuition assistance is available for

qualified military and civilian personnel.

Registration will be Thursday from noon to 1 p.m. in the main lobby of the Education and Training Center.

For information, call the center at 3-3120.

## Thrift Shop, 274-8079

❑ The Minuteman Thrift Shop is accepting winter items for consignment.

Hours of operation are Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Consignment hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Friday and the first Saturday of each month. The Thrift Shop will be closed Dec. 20 through Jan. 5. For information call Kelly Comeau, Dawn King, or Lisa Van Bienen at 274-8079. Send correspondence to Thrift Shop, ATTN: Manager, POB 557, Bedford, MA 01730.

## Company Grade Officers' Council

❑ Today is December's General Assembly at the Officers' Club. Social will begin early at 3 p.m., business begins promptly at 3:30 p.m. The agenda includes elections for the 1999 CGOC officers. Don't miss this opportunity to get involved, become a leader and help guide the CGOC at Hanscom. Lt. Gen. Ronald T. Kadish, ESC commander, and Lt. Gen. Stewart E. Cranston, AFMC vice commander, are planning to attend to present awards and address the assembly.

## Officers' Wives' Club

❑ The 1998 White House Ornament is being offered to anyone interested in pur-

## Religious Activities

### Chapel, Bldg. 1603, 3-3538

❑ **Catholic masses:** Saturdays at 5 p.m., Sundays at 7:30 and 11 a.m. and weekdays at 12:05 p.m.

❑ **Protestant worship:** general Protestant Service — Sundays at 9 a.m.; Gospel Service — Sundays at 12:30 p.m.

❑ **Jewish services:** the first and third Friday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

❑ **Eastern Orthodox:** for information contact Tech. Sgt. James M. Boubonis at 274-8714.

❑ **For information** on chapel services, call 3-3538 or 3-3539.

chasing this beautiful and unique gift. This year's ornament commemorates the presidency of James Buchanan, the 15th president and features a white porcelain eagle surrounded by a 24k gold frame of white magnolia blossoms and red camellias. Each ornament is \$15 and can be acquired by calling Cathy Duggan 274-6730, Cindy Kadish 274-9396 or Marlene Peeler 274-9106.

❑ The OWC will host its annual holiday brunch Dec. 15 at 10:30 a.m. in the Officers' Club Ballroom. Call your reservation to a committee member no later than noon Thursday.

❑ The Officers' Wives' Club and the Base Exchange will offer holiday gift wrap service at the exchange from Monday through Dec. 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. All donations will benefit the Officers' Wives' Club enabling them to support our community.

❑ The OWC and services will co-sponsor the annual Children's Holiday Party Dec. 12 at the Hanscom Youth Center. The party will be from 1 to 4 p.m. The event will feature crafts, face painting, and refreshments as well as an opportunity to get a picture with Santa. The party is free and open to all Hanscom children. For information, call Lisa Bednar at 863-8387.

## Enlisted Wives' Club

❑ The members of the Enlisted Wives' Club invite eligible people to attend the general membership meeting in the Tuskegee Dining Room at the Patriot Enlisted Club on the first Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

Meetings are open to all spouses of enlisted personnel and all enlisted military personnel, married, or single. The club is involved in many community activities at Hanscom and have fundraisers to help support the community. The group enjoys many social activities and outings throughout the year. Experience the friendship and support that the club has to offer.

For information concerning the group and membership, contact Tricia Kemens, President, at 275-9431, or Marty Rockenstire, membership chairperson, at 274-7948.

## Boy Scouts

❑ Hanscom Boy Scout Troop 173 will hold its annual Christmas Tree sales again this year. Sales will take place adjacent to the BX parking lot now through Dec. 23. Hours of operation will be Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 7 p.m., and Monday through Friday 4 to 7 p.m. Prices will range from approximately \$15 to \$30. All proceeds from the sale of trees goes to Hanscom Boy Scouting.

## People's Corner

### Expeditionary Forces Experiment (ESC/FX)

Congratulations to Joe and Tina Buzzell on the birth of their daughter Katherine Rose. Happy birthday to Cliff Banner and Mary Adams.

### Global Air Traffic Operations Mobility C2 (GATO/MC2)

Welcome to Michelle Ripetoe, Tim Brannan and Mike Chalifoux. Happy birthday to Tim Brannan, Robin Jordan, Andrew Way and Warren Rekowski. A special thanks to GAR for a wonderful Thanksgiving feast.

### MILSATCOM (MC)

Congratulations for being selected for promotion to captain to 1st Lt. Charles Bayless, 1st Lt. Willie Bohles, 1st Lt. Jeff Carter, 1st Lt. Claudine Davenport, 1st Lt. David Fitzgerald and 1st Lt. Joe Herrick. Happy

birthday to Lt. Col. Phil Roberts, Capt. Earl Kinsley, 1st Lt. Marty O'Grady, 2nd Lt. Jason Parson, Chip Chapin, Paula Doorakian, Nelly Droznin, Ellen Dukett, Patricia Gallagher, Jeff Hall, Iris Mugford, Tom Nield and Ira Zigelbaum. Fond farewells to Sandy LaPlante and Marty Van Grouw.

### Contracting (PK)

The Directorate of Contracting is pleased to announce that the following groups and individuals have been nominated for the Annual Air Force and Air Force Material Command Contracting and Competition Awards.

**Air Force Awards** - Outstanding Contracting Unit (Operational): **ESC/PKO**; Outstanding Contracting Unit (Specialized): **38LS/LGC**; Outstanding Contracting Unit (Science and Technology and Systems): **ESC/JSK**; Secretary of the Air Force Professionalism in Contracting (Supervi-

sory): **William A. Cox** - SSG/PKS; Secretary of the Air Force Professionalism in Contracting (Non-Supervisory): **James K. McKenna** - ESC/PKO; Outstanding Pricing: **Alan D. Lavoie** - ESC/PKX; Outstanding Contracting Military Officer (Operational): **Capt. Chris Rueffer** - ESC/PKO, Outstanding Contracting Military Officer (Specialized): **2nd Lt. Owen Stephens** - 38LS/LGC; Outstanding Contracting Military Officer (Systems or S&T): **Maj. Jeffrey L. Emmons** - ESC/GAK; Outstanding Contracting Civilian (Operational): **Sharon A. Skelton** - ESC/PKO and **Rhonda J. Chavez** - ESC/PKO; Outstanding Contracting Civilian (Specialized): **Rose Smith** - SSG/PKX; Outstanding Contracting Civilian (Systems): **Angela L. Luter** - ESC/JSK; Outstanding Contracting Enlisted Member (NCO): **Tech. Sgt. Sheryl Earl** - ESC/PKO; Outstanding Contracting Enlisted Member (Airman): **Airman 1st Class Scott Bendig** - ESC/PKO; Outstanding Contracting Support: **Linda C. Roberson** - 38LS/LGC; Outstanding Base Level Quality

Assurance Evaluator: **Master Sgt. Jerry D. Smith** - 38LS/LGC; Strategic Acquisition Reform Team: **ESC/FXK**; Outstanding Contribution to Air Force Competition (Team) - **ESC/GAK**; Outstanding Contribution to Air Force Competition (Unit): **ESC**;

**AFMC Annual Awards** - AFMC Outstanding Achievement in Contracting Information Technology: **MSG/PK**

### 66th Logistics Squadron (LG)

Happy birthday to Master Sgt. Philip Fournier, Nicholas Payson, Staff Sgt. Patrick Cunningham, Senior Airman Jason Whelan, Tom Ouillette, Donald St. Onge, Fran Reid, Hector Cruz, Ken Marion, Tech. Sgt. Jerome Agnew and Dan Riley. Congratulations to Senior Airman Jennifer Keiber on her graduation from Airman Leadership School.

### 66th Air Base Wing Command Post

Congratulations to Daniel Podlogar on his promotion to staff sergeant.





# Services

*Editorial comment is edited, prepared and provided by the 66th Services Squadron at Hanscom. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. Any questions about this supplement may be addressed to Joan Barnhart at 3-9681.*

## What's Happening in Services

### Veterinary Clinic Bldg. 1219, 3-3266

□ **December Clinic Days** are Saturday and Monday through Wednesday. Call for an appointment.

□ **Annual Pet Registration** will be during the month of January for the 1999 calendar year. Remember, failure to keep your pet current on vaccinations and registration may result in loss of pet and or base housing privileges.

### Outdoor Recreation Bldg. 1531, 3-5316

□ Don't forget to use Outdoor Recreation for your shipping needs during the holiday season. We ship UPS ground, 2nd day air, next day air and 3 day select. Packages 70 pounds and under are accepted. Call for more information.

□ Make your holiday event more fun. Rent a Santa suit for \$30 per day or an elf suit for \$5 per day. Reservations and a \$10 deposit preferred.

□ Ask us about our "Frequent Skier Program" for the upcoming ski season.

□ We now have wool sweaters for sale at \$35 each and hooded jackets at \$30. Makes a great gift.

□ Planning a big family get together during the holidays? Do you have enough tables and chairs? If not, contact us for table and chair rentals. Don't wait until it's too late!

### Youth Center Bldg. 1993, 3-3739

□ **Youth Center Memberships.** Did you know it's only \$25 a year to join the Youth Center? Get in on the fun at a price that's affordable. Annual membership is for ages 9 to 18.

□ Spring soccer registrations are being accepted through Monday for children ages 8 to 12. \$25 for members, \$37.50 for nonmembers. Call the center for more information.

### Fitness and Sports Bldg. 1548, 3-3639

□ The Fitness and Sports Center offers 10 **aerobic classes** each week. Stop by or call for schedule and details of class levels and times.

□ **Taekwondo** classes are Monday and Wednesday

from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Classes are free and open to all personnel.

□ **Therapeutic Massage** is now offered at the Fitness and Sports Center. Sessions are available from 6 a.m. to noon Mondays. Cost is \$50 per hour or \$30 per half hour.

### CDC, Bldg. 1994, 3-7166

□ **Hourly Care** for children 6 weeks to age 5. Call one week in advance for reservations. Space is limited and available to first come, first served. Hours are 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

□ **Caregiver positions** are available. For more information call the Human Resource office at 3-8741.

### Family Child Care Bldg. 1994, 3-1280

□ Love working with children? Want to be your own boss and set your own hours? Then give the Family Child Care office a call and learn more about becoming a Family Child Care provider.

### Hanscom Lanes Bldg. 1531, 3-2237

□ Hanscom Lanes is smoke free five days a week: Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, all day.

□ **YABA Junior Bowling** registrations are now being accepted for children ages 5-19. Registration is \$7.25 and \$4.50 per week for bowling which includes shoe rental. For additional information contact the bowling center at 3-2237.

□ **Bowling Bingo** runs daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Win up to \$1,000. Only \$1 per chance.

□ **Turkey Shoot** luncheon bowling Dec. 22 and 23 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$6 per entry, multiple entries allowed. Turkeys will be awarded at 4 p.m. Dec. 23.

□ **Family Bowling** is back on Saturdays. Choose from 3 to 5 p.m. or 5:15 to 7:15 p.m. Phone reservations will be accepted on Thursday mornings.

□ **Glow Bowling**, Dec. 12. Christmas Tournament for adult and youth and a special Christmas Glow Bowling Dec. 26 at 7:30 p.m. Make it a fun night

for the whole family and don't forget to bring a friend!

□ **King/Queen of the Hill Tournament** is Saturday and Dec. 19. Start time is 7:30 p.m. Call for registration information.

### Swimming Pool Bldg. 1550, 3-2455

□ Pool hours are Mon. through Fri., 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (adult laps) and 4 to 7 p.m. and Sat. from noon to 6 p.m. The pool is closed on Sundays and holidays.

□ Want to be a certified lifeguard? If you are interested and 15 or older, call the pool for more information.

□ Swim lessons are held Tuesday and Thursday at 3 and 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$45 per person. Call the pool for more information.

### Tickets and Tours Bldg. 1535, 3-3262

Tours, plays and more! Coming attractions include: **Radio City Music Hall "Christmas Spectacular"** Dec. 13 and 14, \$291 per person, double occupancy; **Boston Pops Christmas Show** at the Worcester Centrum Dec. 13, 1:30 p.m., \$30 each; **The King and I**, Dec. 18 at the Repertory Theater, includes transportation and luncheon; cost is \$44 each. **Sesame Street Live**, Worcester Centrum, Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. and Dec. 20 at 12:30 p.m.; \$11 per ticket. **New Year's Eve in Montreal**, Dec. 30 to Jan. 1, \$269 per person, double occupancy; **Taj Mahal Casino and Resort**, Jan. 10 to 12: \$109 per person double occupancy. We have advanced tickets for **Foxwoods** casino for only \$22. Call for reservation information. Space is limited.

## WANTED!

**Accounting Technician  
Experienced Preferred**

Contact : Human

Resources

(781) 377-8741

E.O.E.

Fax Resume to 781-377-7899

## Club Happenings

### Patriot Enlisted Club, 3-2123

- First Friday of the month, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Food, fun, music and prizes.
- Join us for Tuesday night dinner from 5 to 8 p.m. \$9 for adult members and \$12 for eligible nonmembers. A children's menu is available for \$4.50.
- Wednesday Night Buffet is 5 to 7 p.m. This is the best deal in town! \$6.95 for adult members, \$3.95 for kids. Surcharge applies.
- Thursday Lunch Buffet, 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$5.50 per person, surcharge applies.
- Karaoke every Thursday night from 7 to 10 p.m.
- Everyone is invited to enjoy the Tuskegee Airmen Room at the Enlisted Club. As a reminder, the Tuskegee Airmen Room is a designated non-smoking area.
- Bingo every Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. A chance to win over \$300 in cash!
- Club Card Drawing every Friday night. Win instant cash from the last four numbers of your club card. You must be present to win. If there is no winner, the pot will increase by \$25 each week. Special drawing on Dec. 24 at 4 p.m. Call us for details!
- New Year's Eve celebration, Dec. 31 from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dinner buffet from 6 to 8 p.m. Breakfast from midnight to 1 a.m. Dance to Deuces Wild in the ballroom and a DJ in the lounge. \$22 for members and \$28 for nonmembers. Please call for reservations.

### Officers' Club, 3-3799

- Start your day with us, every weekday morning from 7 to 9 a.m. for specialty coffees, bagels, muffins and more. Open to all base personnel.
- Come and enjoy a great lunch of steak, baked potato or fries, salad, vegetable and more for only \$6 (members only please) every Thursday during lunch. Regular price is \$12.50 for all nonmembers regardless of eligibility.
- Steak Night every Thursday from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- Club Catering Services are available for that special party or function. Call Karen Cardoos at 3-9694 for more information. Call now to reserve your holiday functions!
- New Year's Eve celebration, Dec. 31. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Featuring In Harmony in the lounge and Linmax in the ballroom. Dinner Buffet served from 7 to 9 p.m. Breakfast from 1 to 2 a.m. \$36 for members and \$50 for nonmembers. Please call for reservations.

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Advertised**

Buy any set of adult or kid's clubs and get 50 percent off the bag of your choice! Buy any golf bag and receive 50 percent off the purchase of a golf cart. Buy a bag and get 50 percent off the purchase of a second bag of your choice.

### Patriot Golf Course 781-687-2396

Are you going TDY this winter to a warm location? The Patriot Golf Course Annual Green Fee Card entitles you to free golf at most Air Force golf courses in the world on official TDY status. In addition to a full selection of golf equipment and apparel, gift certificates may be purchased in any amount. The Golf Shop is open through Dec. 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Purchase annual Green Fee Card Dec. 1 to 24 and receive 10 percent off your next Golf Shop purchase.